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AF/2882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application number: 09/736,351

Application filed: 15 December 2000

Applicant: Wendel Dean Renner

Title: Radiation Therapy Dosimetry Quality Control Process

Art Unit: 2882

Examiner: Therese Barber

**Amendment E:
Submission of Response to Office Action of Oct. 17, 2003
Remarks**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Office Action dated 05/07/2003.

Remarks:

We respectively note that the patent reviewer continues to make unfounded and erroneous statements about the claims of other patents. In remark (3) of the Oct. 17, 2003 office action, the reviewer states the Olivera (USPN 6,438,202 B1) discloses "measuring the output of the intended treatment beam over the area of the radiation beam in a plane perpendicular to the central ray of the radiation beam prior to impingement upon the patient (col. 7, lines 5-35)". Yet upon examining col. 7 lines 5-35, it is clearly stated that the beam "passes through the patient 17 ... to be detected by post-patient radiation detector 53". And figure 4 clearly shows detector 53 to be the fan line geometry with the detector on an arc with the patient positioned between the source of x-rays and the detector. Col. 7, line 66 to col. 8 line 33 clearly states that the dose to the patient can only be computed by first taking into account the attenuation the patient caused in the measurement by the detector 53. Whereas our process has the advantage of measuring the radiation beam before it impinges upon the patient, making it possible to compute the dose without having to correct for the patient attenuation of the measured signals, and thereby removing a large uncertainty in the result. Further, gantry mounted radiation machines have the complication of a non-uniform patient support system which would interfere with attempts to measure the radiation field after passing through the patient for beams in the anterior - posterior direction.

